



2191

PATENT  
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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: ) Group Art Unit: 2191  
Makoto OUCHI ) Examiner: Not Assigned  
Application No. 10/537,565 ) Atty. Docket No. YOKOP032  
U.S. Filing Date: June 3, 2005 ) Confirmation No. 3571  
For: CHARACTERISTIC REGION EXTRACTION ) Date: March 26, 2007  
DEVICE, CHARACTERISTIC REGION )  
EXTRACTION METHOD, AND )  
CHARACTERISTIC REGION )  
EXTRACTION PROGRAM )

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 26, 2007.

Signed:   
Diane Schwanbeck

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Post Office Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The references listed in the attached PTO Form 1449, copies of which are attached, may be material to examination of the above-identified patent application. Applicant submits these references in compliance with his duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56 and 1.97. The Examiner is requested to consider these references and to acknowledge such consideration by initialing the attached PTO Form 1449 at the appropriate locations.

References L-N were cited in a counterpart international application. For the Examiner's use and information, a copy of the pertinent portion of the International Search Report is attached. The relevance of References L-N, which are in the Japanese language, may be ascertained by reviewing References R-T, which are English language abstracts of References L-N, respectively.

This Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being filed before the first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, no fees are due in connection with the filing of this IDS. In the event it is determined that fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 50-0805 (Order No. YOKOP032).

Respectfully submitted,  
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|--|--|---|----|---|-------------------------|--------------|
| Substitute for form 1449/PTO<br><b>Information Disclosure Statement By Applicant</b><br><i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |  |   |    |   | Application Number      | 10/537,565   |
|  |  |   |    |   | U.S. Filing Date:       | June 3, 2005 |
|  |  |   |    |   | First Named Inventor:   | Makoto OUCHI |
|  |  |   |    |   | Art Unit:               | 2191         |
|  |  |   |    |   | Examiner Name:          |              |
|  |  |   |    |   | Attorney Docket Number: | YOKOP032     |
| MAR 29 2007<br>U.S. TRADES<br>PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  |  | 1 | of | 1 |                         |              |

### U.S. Patent Documents

| Examiner Initial | Cite No. | Document No. | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|------------------|----------|--------------|------------------|---|---|
| A                |          |              |                  |   |   |
| B                |          |              |                  |   |   |
| C                |          |              |                  |   |   |
| D                |          |              |                  |   |   |
| E                |          |              |                  |   |   |
| F                |          |              |                  |   |   |
| G                |          |              |                  |   |   |
| H                |          |              |                  |   |   |
| I                |          |              |                  |   |   |
| J                |          |              |                  |   |   |
| K                |          |              |                  |   |   |

### Foreign Patent Documents

| Examiner Initial | Cite No.     | Foreign Patent Document No. | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | Translation |
|------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|------------------|---|---|-------------|
|                  |              |                             |                  |   |   | YES      NO |
| L                | JP 09-093431 | 4/1997                      | Takiguchi et al. |   |   | x           |
| M                | JP 11-053517 | 2/1999                      | Inoue            |   |   | x           |
| N                | JP 11-185018 | 7/1999                      | Higure           |   |   | x           |
| O                |              |                             |                  |   |   |             |
| P                |              |                             |                  |   |   |             |
| Q                |              |                             |                  |   |   |             |

### Non Patent Literature Documents

|                  |  |   |
|------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initial | Cite No.   | Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. |
| R                | Abstract of Japanese Patent Publication No. 09-093431,<br>Pub. Date: 04 April 1997, Patent Abstracts of Japan    |   |
| S                | Abstract of Japanese Patent Publication No. 11-053517,<br>Pub. Date: 26 February 1999, Patent Abstracts of Japan |   |
| T                | Abstract of Japanese Patent Publication No. 11-185018,<br>Pub. Date: 09 July 1999, Patent Abstracts of Japan     |   |
| U                |  |   |
| V                |  |   |
| W                |  |   |

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|--------------------|-----------------|
| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |
|--------------------|-----------------|

Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.